

ABSENTEE VOTING IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS

1. Any qualified, registered elector may apply for a ballot at any time after the posting of the notice of the election.
2. Application for an absentee ballot shall be made in writing to the school district clerk AND the county election administrator if non-school issues are being considered on that Election Day. A sample form follows. Third parties, with the exception of immediate family and guardians, may not send applications for absentee ballots to the election administrator. **13-13-213, MCA**
3. Application blanks shall be sent by the school district clerk/election administrator to any elector requesting the same. The school district clerk/election administrator shall, upon receipt of an application, compare the signature on the application to the signature on the voter registration card. If convinced that the applicant is the same as the one whose name appears on the registration card, he/she shall deliver or mail the ballot.
4. The school district clerk/election administrator will immediately mail ballots, with (a) a secrecy envelope, free of any marks that would identify the voter; (b) a self-addressed, return envelope with affirmation printed on the back of the envelope; and (c) instructions, to each elector from which a valid application has been received.
5. The voter, before casting the ballot, shall sign the affidavit on the return envelope and then such voter shall mark the ballot without exposing his/her vote, fold the ballot, place such ballot in the secrecy envelope and securely seal. The sealed secrecy envelope shall then be placed in the self-addressed, return envelope and sealed. Said envelope shall be mailed by the voter or delivered to the school district clerk/election administrator.
6. Upon receipt of such envelope, the school district clerk/election administrator shall immediately attach the elector's application to the envelope and mark the precinct number for delivery to the polls or counting center.

13-13-212, 13-13-213, 13-13-214, 13-13-221 and 13-13-241, MCA